

Special Education General Supervision System: Data Collection, Monitoring & Reporting

In an effort to help people understand how information relevant to Special Education flows within the Department and between the department and the field, we have developed a series of flow charts and timelines. The accompanying flow chart relates specifically to data which is part of the Annual Performance Report to the U.S. Department of Education. It also illustrates how these data are used for Monitoring, as required under state and federal law, and how they are reported.

The inputs to the Annual Performance report which are collected from the field include:

1. Participation and proficiency data related to NECAP assessments
2. Graduation and Drop Out information from the Spring Student Census
3. Suspension and Expulsion information from Combined Incident Reporting System
4. Parent Involvement information from survey mailed to all parents of Special Education students
5. Post Secondary Outcome information from telephone survey of students who exited Special Education in the prior school year
6. Population demographic information from Child Count
7. Early Childhood Outcomes information from Essential Early Education (EEE) personnel in the school systems
8. Other data relevant to Administrative Complaints and Due Process from the department's legal staff
9. Compliance information from Supervisory Unions, collected on a rotating basis.

These data are reported to the U.S. Department of Education, and are made available to the public via the Vermont Department of Education's Web site. They are also used as a basis for the Focused Monitoring process.

The SPED Data Timeline and Child Count Timeline shows when these data are gathered during the school year, and for which time period.

The Monitoring Timeline shows when district data from districts is due to the department as well as when it is acted on.

The Special Education Financial Timeline shows dates that various reports and grant applications are due to the state.

1. SEER is Special Education Expenditure Report, which is the basis for reimbursement by the State. Worksheet A and Worksheet B are components of this report, dealing with specific categories of expenditures. Worksheet A is related to State Placed Students, while Worksheet B covers extraordinary expenses.
2. IDEA B Grant is allocated to each Supervisory Union; the application must be submitted and substantially approved by the State prior to expenditure of those funds.
3. Supervisory Unions submit Service Plans in October. These plans are an estimate of the next year's Special Education expenditures, and are used by the department for budgeting purposes.
4. BEST grant applications are due to the department by September 15th each year. SDE1.1 form notifies the department of planned expenditures prior to June 30th, and is required to get payment.
5. The Medicaid Reinvestment Survey is a report on how Supervisory Unions are using Medicaid reimbursements they receive.
6. The Medicaid Health Services Survey provides information about the cost of providing School Nursing services.